

November 20, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

My nine year old son, Mason, has attended the Lake Chabot Junior Golf Academy since April of 2008. It is something he wanted to do, so I was grateful that we stumbled upon the program and that the academy was willing to accommodate him.

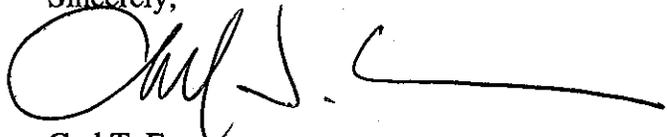
For you see my son is not the easiest child to work with. He has been diagnosis with Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD). On a scale of 1-10, he's been described as a ten. He has also been diagnosis with very mild cerebral palsy, which affects his balance and fine motor skills. He also displays some of the symptoms of a child with mild case of asperger's syndrome. When I adopted him, they told he will never be a gymnast because of his mild cerebral palsy. However, it doesn't seem to impact his golfing. What often seems to get in the way is his difficulty in regulating his behavior. He has a history of complaints from his school, summer camp and swim instructors.

What I like about the academy is it has many volunteer coaches which allow the students to be taught in small groups. For a child with ADHD, it is an ideal learning situation. His coach gives him the attention he needs to stay focus and manage his behavior. His coach has even taken it upon himself to learn about working with kids with ADHD and I am grate for that.

However, what I am most thankful for is that the academy emphases having respect for yourself and others. Coach Scales ask the kids every week, "What is etiquette?" and the kids respond, "Etiquette is respect for yourself and others". The kids have to be on time, wear their uniform, tuck in their shirt and take off their caps when they walk into the classroom. They are expected to demonstrate etiquette on the golf course. When my son is whining or misbehaving, I will often ask him "Is that etiquette? Are you showing respect for yourself and others?" That is often enough for him to correct his behavior. His teacher has even incorporated it into her classroom. It is a simple message that helps him better regulate his behavior.

As you can tell, I am very appreciative of Lake Chabot Junior Golf Academy. They have been willing to accommodate my son and I feel that he is not only learning to golf but is also learning to be a better person. I hope you will be supportive of their grant request, not only because it will benefit my son, but also all the kids that attend the academy.

Sincerely,



Carl T. Emura